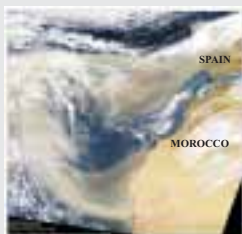


Science, Society, Solutions

Your Health: What's USGS Got To Do With It?

Dust and Particulates



USGS research is providing the public health community with important new insights into the potential human health effects of dust, such as the pathogen and contaminant content of windborne dusts arriving in the United States from Africa and the role of mineral composition and mineral shape in asbestos-related diseases.



The World Around Us Affects Our Health

USGS scientists:

Characterize natural and human sources of contaminants and disease agents in the environment

Show how contaminants and disease agents move in the environment

Partner with public health officials to solve environmental health problems that affect people

West Nile Virus



USGS is conducting research, in collaboration with CDC, to learn the current geographic extent of the West Nile virus, to understand how it moves between birds, mosquitoes and humans, and to predict future movements of the virus.



Mercury



USGS investigations of the forms, sources, and effects of mercury help identify ways to reduce mercury contamination problems for people and wildlife across the country.

Drinking Water



In collaboration with the Federal, state and local agencies, USGS scientists assess the quality of drinking water for 91 million people in the United States.

Arsenic

USGS scientists identify and map natural sources of arsenic in the environment and study the geochemical processes that affect its toxicity. In the past year, the USGS has provided occurrence information to USEPA for their rulemaking efforts, and collaborated with health professionals world-wide to assess arsenic exposure.

